

email: president@hillsidefederation.org
website: www.hillsidefederation.org

FOUNDED IN 1952

President

Joan Luchs

CHAIRMAN

Lynette Berg Robe

VICE PRESIDENTS

Conrad Schoeffter

Charley Mims

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Liz Tigar

RECORDING SECRETARY

Cassandra Barrère

TREASURER

David Garfinkle

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

BelAir Knolls Property
BelAir Skycrest Property
Benedict Canyon
Briarcliff Improvement
Cahuenga Pass Neighborhood
Crests Neighborhood Association
Encino Property Owners
Forest Hills Homeowners
Franklin Hills Residents
Franklin Ave/Hwd.Blvd.West
Glassell Park Improvement
Glenridge Homeowners
Highland Homeowners
Hollywood Dell Civic
Hollywood Heights
Hollywoodland Homeowners
Holmby Hills Homeowners
Homeowners of Encino
Laurel Canyon
Lookout Mountain Alliance
Los Feliz Improvement
Mt. Olympus Property Owners
Mount Washington Association
Mt. Wash. Homeowners Alliance
Nichols Canyon
No. Beverly Dr./Franklin Canyon
Outpost Estates
Pacific Palisades Residents
Residents of Beverly Glen
Roscomare Valley
Shadow Hills Property
Sherman Oaks
Studio City Residents
Tarzana Property Owners
Torreyson-Flynn
Upper Mandeville Canyon
Whitley Heights Civic

CHAIRMEN EMERITUS

Jerome C. Daniel
Patricia Bell Hearst
Gordon Murley
Polly Ward

CHAIRMAN IN MEMORIUM

Brian Moore

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**WELCOME TO GAIL
GOLDBERG AS GUEST OF
HONOR ON DECEMBER 5TH**



Members of the Hillside Federation extend a warm welcome to Gail Goldberg at our Holiday Party located at the Mulholland Tennis Club on December 5th. A veteran of 17 years with the San Diego Planning Department, the last five as Planning Director, Goldberg was appointed Director of City Planning Department for Los Angeles in February, 2006. In accepting this job, she inherits a department whose work demands have been growing exponentially. For starters was the need to develop six new community plans, plus respond to the mayor's request for a new Civic Center master plan for Little Tokyo.

As Director of Planning she oversees all new development in the City. She is responsible for Community Plans and Zoning Codes designed to protect residential neighborhoods from out-of-scale developments.

We want to learn what's her vision for Los Angeles; how gridlock on our neighborhood streets can be curbed; how can our Community and Specific Plans be enforced; why approvals for Exemptions and Variances are being given to developers? An answer to those huge questions is a huge order. We salute her efforts.

Continued on next column...

Just getting to know the City of Los Angeles is a major challenge which she has undertaken by car and on foot, discovering several mini communities that need to be considered in shaping a creative whole. It is reassuring to know that Ms. Goldberg places a high premium on pedestrian friendly areas and we all will watch with interest as her vision for the City continues to develop.

JOAN LUCHS



**HOLIDAY CHEER TO ALL
COME CELEBRATE**

WHEN and WHERE?

DEC. 5, 2007 - 6:30 PM

MULHOLLAND TENNIS CLUB

**2555 Crestview Drive
Skyline off Mulholland
Hollywood Hills, CA 90046**

**GUEST OF HONOR
GAIL GOLDBERG**

Director, L.A. City Planning Dept.

**Enjoy fabulous buffet dinner with wine
(No Host Bar Also Available)**

See Map on last page

JANUARY MEETING SCHEDULE

January 9, 2008

UNIVERSAL CITY NISSAN

**3550 Cahuenga Blvd., West
between Lankershim and Universal Bridge
off-ramp; park in underground garage;
take elevator to "S" Street Level; follow
signs to second floor conference room**

ACQUISITION OF 18 ACRES ADJACENT TO RUNYON CANYON PARK LOOKS PROMISING

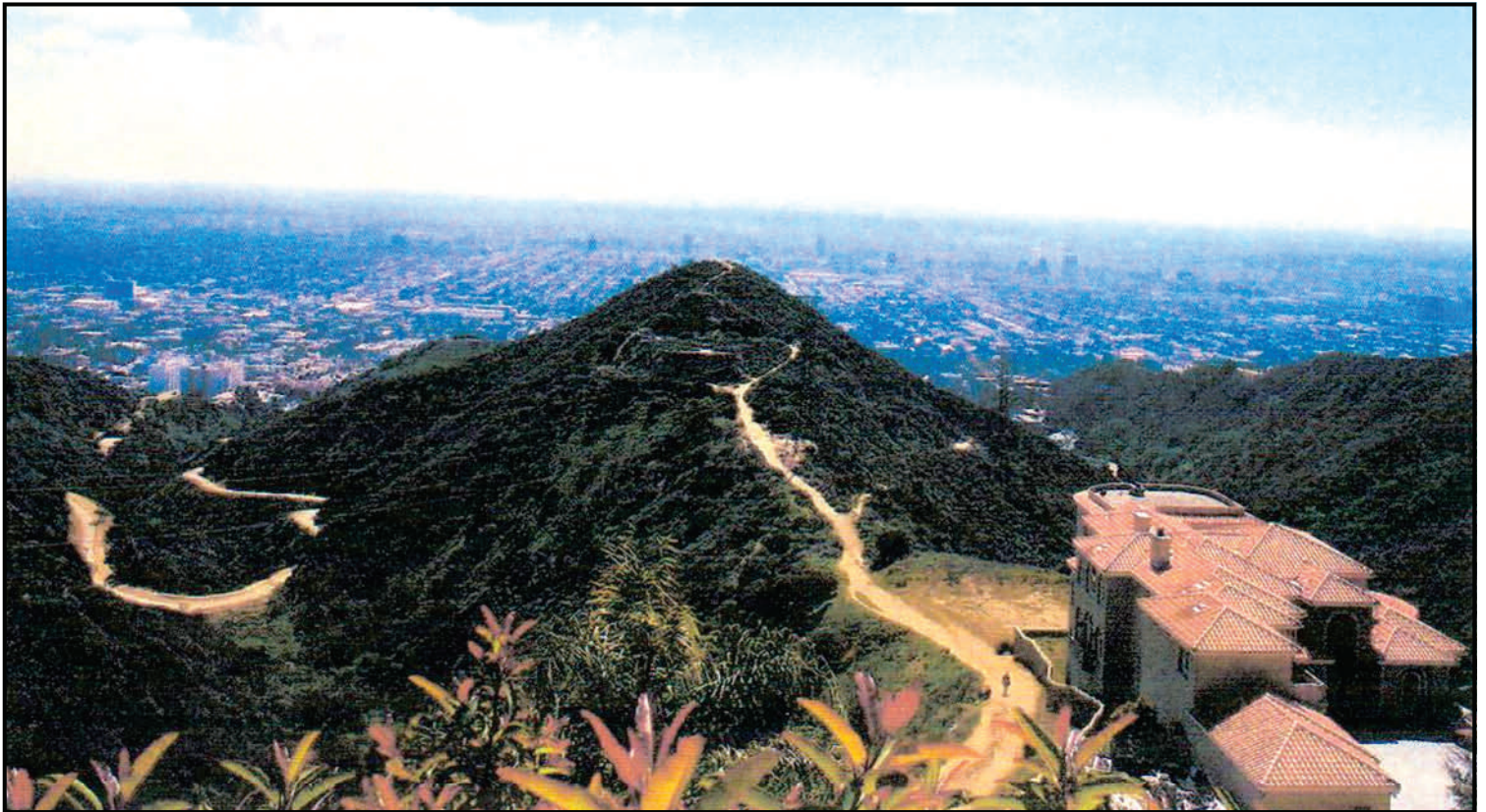
The City of Los Angeles, under the leadership of Councilman Tom LeBonge and with the help of a group of volunteers is working to acquire 18 of 21 acres immediately to the west of Runyon Canyon Park. The property, on which a large house has been constructed but never approved for occupancy, has been used by hikers for many years. It is bordered on the east by the Park and on the west by land previously acquired by the MRCA. The acquisition of the undeveloped portion of this property would preserve the entire south face of the hillside which is an important corridor for wildlife and migrating raptors.

Councilman LaBonge has committed \$2.5 million in Proposition K funds; The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has released the balance of \$640,000 in a Runyon Canyon Trust Fund and the Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority has authorized use of available funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1.

Attorney Katherine Butts Warwick spoke to the Federation Board at the November 7, 2007 meeting and stated that plans by the current owners of the property had been to subdivide and build “between nine and eleven world-class residences” on these steep hillsides. However, those plans were interrupted when one of the co-owners filed for bankruptcy protection in April 2006. The Chapter 11 Trustee has now abandoned the property which will soon be foreclosed and available for purchase.

Warwick is intimately familiar with this area, having walked there with her dogs over the past ten or twelve years. She asked for help and ideas to further her efforts to raise the remainder of the funds needed to complete this transaction, noting that some private funds have already been pledged. Any additional monies raised could be donated to the City and deductible as Section 501(C)(3) donations.

Katherine Butts Warwick



Proposed Acquisition of 18 Acres Adjacent To
Runyon Canyon Park

NOVEMBER MINUTES**DRAFT MINUTES – HILLSIDE FEDERATION****General Membership Meeting: November 7, 2007****EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CALLED TO**

ORDER: Discussed Crests Neighborhood Association application to become a member of the Hillside Federation. Motion, Charley Mims, 1st, David Garfinkle, 2nd, to approve application was passed unanimously. **Executive Committee meeting adjourned.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:

There being a quorum, the meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Luchs at 7:46 PM. Members and guests were welcomed and introduced.

MINUTES: Motion to approve October minutes was made by Ann Walnum, 1st, Charley Mims, 2nd. Unanimously passed.

POLICY FOR AGENDIZING ISSUES AND

SPEAKING AT MEETINGS: President Luchs and Vice President Charley Mims clarified Hillside Federation's policy on speaking at meetings and how to get issues/motions agendized.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- 1) **9100 CRESCENT DRIVE APPEAL:**
Appeal is agendized on November 27, 2007 before Central Area Planning Commission at 4:30 PM, City Hall, 10th floor. Request is made for HF members to attend.
- 2) **CITY VOTES TO STUDY EXPANSION OF SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA:**
Proposed by Assemblyman Adam Schiff and Senator Feinstein, City Council voted to approve a study expanding the SMMNRA to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor.
- 3) **REDUCED PARKING ORDINANCE:**
Hearing has been continued to November 21, 2007. PLUM Council Members' positions: Weiss against, Reyes for and Huizar not present.
- 4) **APPLICATION TO DESIGNATE YAMASHIRO FOR HISTORIC STATUS**

Bob Nudelman has submitted an application to approve historic status designation for Yamashiro. Support is requested for HF Board members to attend application hearing set for January 3rd at City Hall, Room 1010 at 10 AM.

- 5) **LANDSCAPING WORKSHOPS:**
The workshops will be held at Malibu and focus on fire safety and sustainable plants. For more information, contact President Luchs or Ron Galperin, President of Crests Neighborhood
- 6) **HILLSIDE FEDERATION HOLIDAY PARTY is set for 6:30 PM, December 5 at the Mulholland Tennis Club.** Gail Goldberg, Planning Director, will be our Guest of Honor.
- 7) **SB 1818 APPROVED AT JOINT PLUM/ HOUSING COMMITTEE'S MEETING:**
Also referred to as the DENSITY BONUS ORDINANCE, SB 1818 is more about gaining Code exemptions for developers under the guise of adding more affordable housing when, in fact, it will just add more market rate housing and reduce the number of affordable housing units. As approved, it will reduce yard set backs, eliminate CEQA requirements and the right of refusal, increase the height of buildings and Floor Area Ratios without exempting Specific Plans. Amendments were added by Weiss, Cardenas, Garcetti and City Planning.

Attorney Silverstein for Hollywood Heritage submitted objections to proposed ordinance. Federation members are encouraged to bring their concerns to the attention of their own Councilman and Neighborhood Councils.

405 SEPULVEDA WIDENING PROJECT UPDATE:

Caltrans Deputy District Director of Environmental Planning Ron Kosinski gave an overview of this one billion dollar project. The DEIR comment period expired Oct. 18th after having received over 400 comments from a well educated community. Various alternatives were discussed such as auxiliary lanes, takings of homes, Skirball Center ramps, Mulholland closure impacts, widening of Sepulveda, design standards to save the Verizon building and impact on the Getty Museum. Caltrans will make recommendations based on the comments and send out a notice after the Environmental statement is completed.

NOVEMBER MINUTES

President Luchs suggested members submit their comments/concerns to their elected officials and their Neighborhood Councils as soon as possible as the final decision may be announced before January. It was noted that Caltrans Executive office makes the recommendation and the District office makes the decision.

Board members brought up a variety of issues. Among them, Ron Galperin (The Crests) stated the project has \$96 million left over and available and asked where the unspent monies would go; Wayne Williams (SOHO) asked about the existing southbound problems on the 405 which will still be congested if the current proposals are constructed; Robin Greenberg (Roscomare Valley) brought up access and construction scheduling/staging issues regarding the Mulholland Bridge; Irene Sandler (BelAir Crest) questioned the impacts to the wildlife corridor. Kosinski stated "it's being studied" and finally whether or not elected officials will have input after the Caltrans decision is made. Kosinski said they will.

REDUCED PARKING REQUIREMENT ORDINANCE HEARING SET FOR 11/21/07.

David Garfinkle presented a Motion to oppose the reduced parking ordinance. Conrad Schoeffter 2nd the motion. Discussion revolved around the following problems: the public transportation infrastructure is not in place and is insufficient to allow the removal of parking space requirements; will not force people to give up their vehicles and will cause people who drive to park their cars on adjacent streets. This misguided proposal to revise current parking requirements for new projects needs to be tabled until sufficient public infrastructure is in place.

NEW BUSINESS - GUEST SPEAKERS:

NEW BENEFIT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT BAD:

Paul Edelman from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy spoke of the need to fund acquisition of new properties by creating a new BAD to acquire Cahuenga Peak, Elephant Hill, Hoag Canyon, Runyon Canyon Park, the corner of Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Mulholland Highway. Charley Mims moved, Cassandra Barrère 2nd a

motion to support the creation of a new Benefit Assessment District to acquire more open space in the hillsides. Motion passed unanimously.

Polly Ward reported that despite brush clearance problems in the past, this year no property was lost where the Conservancy had cleared the brush. It was further noted that the Community and the Hillside Federation should be taking an active role in this regard

PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF 18 ACRES ADJACENT TO RUNYON CANYON PARK:

Guest Katherine Butts Warwick spoke about the potential for acquisition of this property. (see page two). Attorney Warwick said discussions have resulted in a possible deal between the City, the lender and original co-owners. The latter are willing to sell the property to the City if they are provided with a lot line adjustment which will allow the current home under construction to be finished. The City, MRCA and the Business Assessment District have contributed money to this end. Warwick asked for help to raise the remainder of the funds needed to complete this transaction.

OLD BUSINESS:

WOLFGANG PUCK WITHDRAWS LIQUOR APPLICATION AT GRIFFITH OBSERVATORY:

Charley Mims reported a community victory. One reason Wolfgang Puck has withdrawn his application for a liquor license was due to overwhelming objections from the community.

SOUTHWEST MUSEUM UPDATE: Dan Wright provided an update on the Southwest Museum. The newly created South Western Society sounds like an advocate for the Southwest Museum, but it is actually controlled by the Gene Autry Group. Wright says they are prepared to fight this takeover.

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 9:55 PM by Charley Mims, 2nd, Dan Palmer. Unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Cassandra Barrère, Recording Secretary

FEDERATION OFFICERS PRESENT at NOVEMBER 7, 2007 MEETING

President	Joan Luchs, Cahuenga Pass Neighborhood
Vice-President	Conrad Shoeffter, Hollywood Heights
Vice-President	Charley Mims, Franklin Hills Residents
Treasurer	David Garfinkle, Tarzana Property Owners Assoc.
Executive Secretary	Liz Tigar, Tarzana Property Owners Assoc.
Recording Secretary	Cassandra Barrère, Laurel Canyon Assoc.

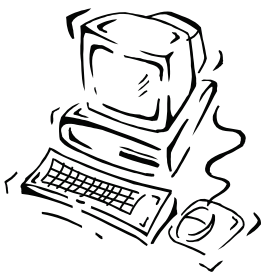


FEDERATION DIRECTORS PRESENT:

BelAir SkyCrest	Skip Nevell
Mount Washington	Ann Walnum
Mt. Wash. Hom. Alliance	Dan Wright
No. Beverly Dr./Franklin Cyn	Robert Levy
The Crests	Ron Galperin
Residents of Beverly Glen	Dan Palmer
Roscomare	Robin Greenberg
Sherman Oaks	Niles Chapman

GUESTS:

Laurel Canyon	Anita Sokolsky
Laurel Canyon	Ethlie Anne Vare
La Tuna Canyon	Frank Buchanon + Dee
Sherman Oaks	Wayne Williams
Studio City Residents	Polly Ward
BelAir Beverly Crest NC	Irene Sandler
Runyon Canyon Park	Katherine Warwick
Cal Trans Dep. Dist. Dir.	Ron Kosinkski
Santa Monica Mountains	Paul Edelman



**VIEW
FEDERATION
WEBSITE
at**

www.hillsidefederation.org

**November Newsletter,
News and Update
Links are available**

If there is something else you'd like to see, or if you want to send an article for the newsletter, let us hear from you. Call Joan Luchs at (213) 368-6120 with your suggestions.

**MULHOLLAND SCENIC PARKWAY
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD**

Meets the first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM

**MARVIN BRAUDE CONSTITUENTS
SERVICE CENTER**

**6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys, CA
First Floor Conference Room**

**Free parking under the building:
Entrance just east of Van Nuys Blvd.
On Sylvan Street**



HOLIDAY PARTY

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

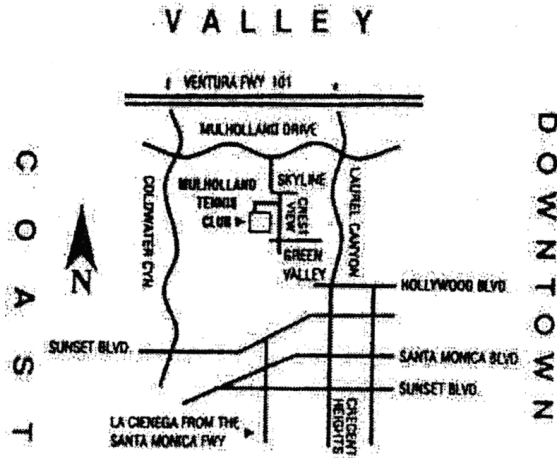
Buffet Dinner: 6:30 PM

At

Mulholland Tennis Club

2555 Crestview Drive

Hollywood Hills, CA 90046



From Hollywood: Take Laurel Canyon Blvd. to Mulholland Drive and turn left.

From the Valley: Take Laurel Canyon Blvd. to Mulholland Drive and turn right.

Go 1 mile and make a left turn on Skyline Drive. Take Skyline to the top of the hill and make a right turn on Crestview Drive. The Mulholland Tennis Club is on the right side.



THE FEDERATION

OF HILLSIDE AND CANYON ASSOCIATIONS, INC.

PO BOX 1673

HOLLYWOOD HILLS, CA 90078

213-368-6120